

Remarks:

Applicants hereby elect, with traverse, the invention of Group I drawn to PDEXV polypeptides, i.e., claims 1, 13, 15, and 21. It is respectfully submitted that the present election requirement is incorrect, as all the pending claims are drawn to the same protein, PDEXV. As such, any search by the Examiner for the polypeptides of the elected Group I will necessarily encompass any literature references that disclose the nucleic acid sequence of PDEXV (assigned to Group II), or the assay methods for identifying agents that affect the activity of PDEXV (assigned to Group III). Even if the Examiner disagrees with this position, it is suggested that Groups I and II should be recombined for examination, as it is generally deemed necessary to search for both the amino acid and nucleic acid sequences simultaneously in order to effectuate a thorough search. As such, the Examiner's search for the polypeptides of Group I will require a search of the nucleic acid sequences of Group II anyway.

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The restriction requirement is deemed correct by Applicants with respect to Group IV, claims 16 and 27. As such, those claims are hereby cancelled.

Claims 24 and 26 are amended herewith to correct a typographical error. These claims were always intended to encompass assay methods involving PDEXV, but were mistakenly written naming the protein PDE1B2 instead. They are herewith corrected to read on PDEXV instead.

Applicants also enclose an Information Disclosure Statement and copies of the references cited by the European Examiner in the counterpart to the present application. The Examiner is respectfully requested to consider these references.

It is believed that the present case is now in condition for allowance. Therefore, a Notice of Allowance is courteously solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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